

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims of the application as set forth below.

1. (Currently amended) A method for the reduction or treatment of radiation injury comprising the step of orally administering to a human prior to expected exposure to radiation, during exposure to radiation or after exposure to radiation, a composition which comprises an amount of one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of vitamin D₃, 1(S), 3(R)-dihydroxy-20(R)-(1-ethoxy-5-ethyl-5-hydroxy-2-heptyn-1-yl)-9, 10-seco-pregna-5(Z), 7(E), 10 (19)-triene, cholesterol, 7-dehydrocholesterol, 1, 25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃, and 25-hydroxycholecalciferol, calcitriol, metabolites thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, which is effective, when administered orally, to inhibit at least one of cell differentiation and cell proliferation, and an effective amount of one or more antioxidants selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, dehydroascorbic acid, ascorbic acid esters, Ester-C®, vitamin A, esters of vitamin A, vitamin E, esters of vitamin E, α-lipoic acid, carotenoids, chlorophyllin, coenzyme Q10, glutathione, green tea polyphenols, galangin, rutin, luteolin, morin, fisetin, silymarin, apigenin, ginkgolides, hesperitin, cyanidin, citrin, curcuminoid, aldonic acids, aldono-lactones, aldono-lactides, pharmaceutically acceptable salts of each of the foregoing antioxidants, superoxide dismutase, catalase, glutathione peroxidase and methionine reductase, and wherein the radiation comprises one or more of proton radiation, fluoroscopic radiation, alpha radiation, beta radiation and gamma radiation.

2. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compound that inhibits at least one of cell differentiation and cell proliferation is selected from the group consisting of vitamin D₃ and metabolites thereof.

3. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the one or more compounds that inhibit at least one of cell differentiation and cell proliferation are selected from the group consisting of: vitamin D₃, 1, 25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃, 1(S), 3(R)-dihydroxy-20(R)-(1-ethoxy-5-ethyl-5-hydroxy-2-heptyn-1-yl)-9, 10-seco-pregna-5(Z), 7(E), 10 (19)-triene, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

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